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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LOADING PENETRATING MEMBERS

(57) Abstract: A body fluid sampling system is provided. In one embodiment, the system may comprise a penetrating member driver; a plurality of penetrating members sufficient for penetrating tissue; a tape coupling together at least two of the penetrating members; and a penetrating member release device removing the penetrating member from a sterile environment prior to use and moving the penetrating member into position to be operatively coupled to the penetrating member driver. The driver may comprises of a drive force generator for advancing the penetrating member and a processor coupled to the drive force generator capable of changing the direction and magnitude of force exerted on the penetrating member during the lancing cycle. The driver may further include a human interface on the housing providing at least one output for communicating with the patient.

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